

1929.1
DISC
1997
c.3

38527417



Discovering Family and Local History

Illinois Regional Archives

GEORGE H. RYAN
Secretary of State
and State Archivist

OATH OF NATURALIZATION
STATE OF ILLINOIS



Discovering paths to the past

Tracing roads from the past is a pursuit enjoyed by many people. We in Illinois are fortunate to have IRAD — the Illinois Regional Archives Depository System. The Illinois State Archives administers this program, which both provides archival services for Illinois local governments and benefits genealogists, historians and local officials. The program carefully preserves valuable documents that might otherwise have been lost to time.

Regional depositories, located at seven state universities, contain local government records of historical or legal value. The staffs of IRAD and the State Archives, who maintain the records, are looking forward to helping you on your journey to the past.

George H. Ryan
Secretary of State
and State Archivist

ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY



3 1129 00806 367 9

23

What records does IRAD have?_____

Local governments which have transferred records to the regional depositories include counties, townships, municipalities, and school districts. The list includes these types of records:

- county board proceedings files and meeting minutes
- records of births, deaths, and marriages
- land deeds, mortgages and tax sale records
- assessors' and collectors' tax books
- poll books and voter registers
- naturalization records, including declarations of intent
- probate records, including wills and will records, case files, administrators' and executors' records, guardianship records, and inventory and appraisement records
- court case files (civil and criminal), chancery cases (including divorces), docket books and court proceedings, and insanity proceedings files and records
- coroners' inquest records and inquest files
- miscellaneous county records, including almshouse/county home records and jail registers

Township, municipal, and school records include township meeting minutes, highway commissioners'

minutes, school trustees' minutes, pupil registers, school land sale records, city council proceedings files and meeting minutes, ordinance records and city election records.

City of Chicago Records. A special part of IRAD's holdings is from the City of Chicago and includes nearly 35,000 previously unknown documents that predate the Great Chicago Fire of 1871. In addition to these City Council proceedings files of 1833-1942,



holdings include plats, atlases, and Sanborn Maps. Other available Chicago records are election registers 1888-1892 and ordinance records spanning from 1837 to 1916.

When is IRAD open? _____

The resources of IRAD are open to the public; hours at the seven depositories vary, but most are open between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. All depositories are

closed on Saturdays and Sundays, state holidays, and other weekdays the university libraries are closed. Calling the depository before your visit is recommended.

How do I make a request? _____

IRAD welcomes your mail and telephone requests concerning genealogy and local history, but please include this information:

- full name of the person you are researching
- approximate year this person is expected to appear in a record
- name of the county
- record title or type to search

Please limit inquiries to two names at a time and wait until you've received a response to your first request before submitting additional ones. (See map and addresses on back.)

How do I find what I need? _____

Several research aids are available to help you in your search. They are:

Publications

A Summary Guide to Local Governmental Records in the Illinois Regional Archives — will become available in 1992. This guide lists all county, township, and municipal records, includ-

ing those from Chicago and Cook County. Cost: \$6.

Chicago City Council Proceedings Files: 1833-1871: An Inventory and an Index — 989-page inventory accompanied by an index containing 93 microfiche. The set is available for \$35.

County listings

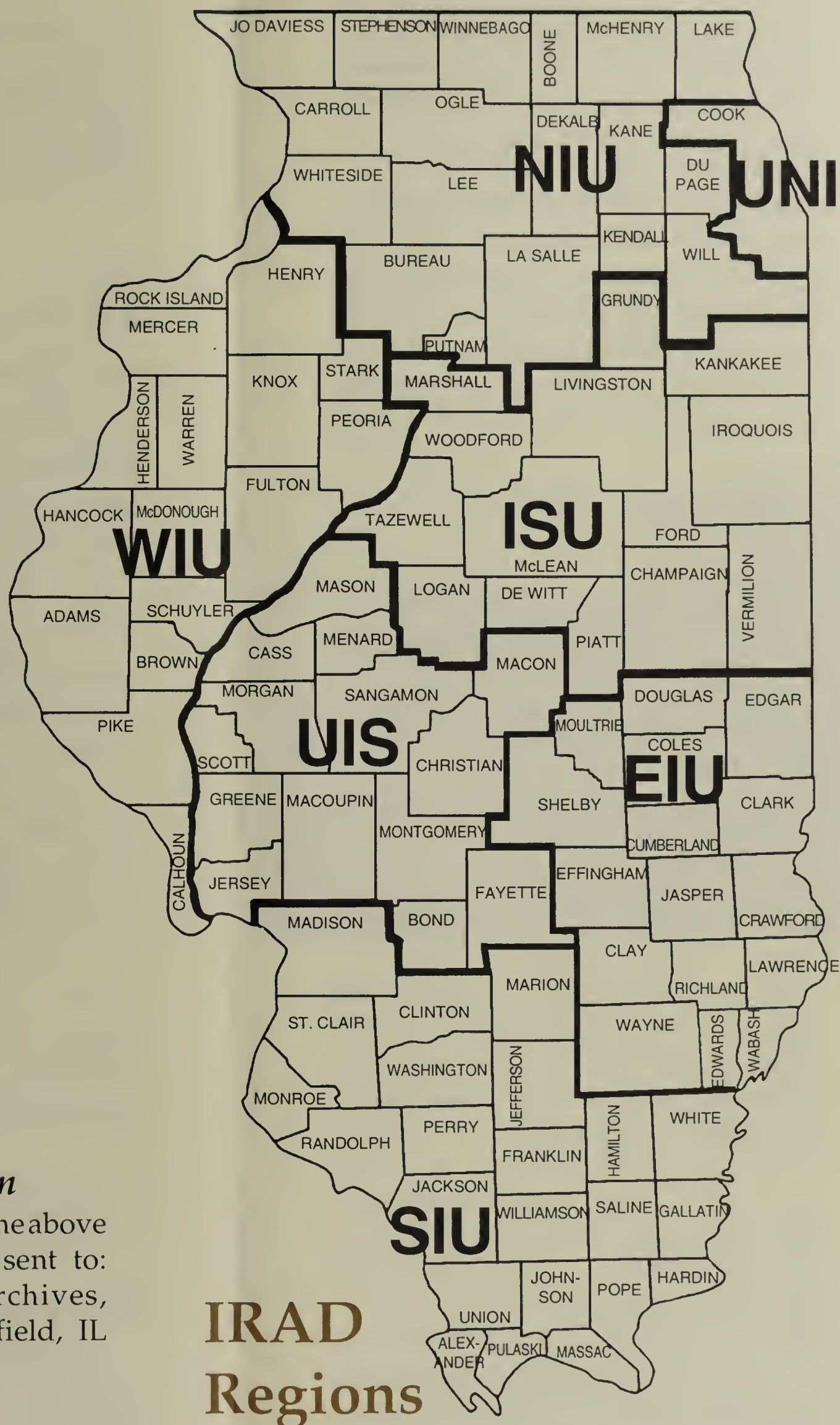
Computer listings of IRAD records arranged by county, office, and record title are available at no charge. Please limit your requests to no more than five counties at a time.

Microfiche listings

The entire listing of IRAD holdings—updated every 12 to 18 months—is available on microfiche to libraries, genealogical and historical societies, or other such organizations.

For more information

Inquiries or orders for the above research aids should be sent to: IRAD, Illinois State Archives, Norton Building, Springfield, IL 62756. (217) 785-1266.



IRAD
Regions

How do I contact a depository? _____

IRAD—Booth Library
Eastern Illinois University
600 Lincoln Avenue
Charleston, IL 61920
(217) 581-6093

IRAD—Williams Hall
Illinois State University
Campus Box 5500
Normal, IL 61790-5500
(309) 452-6027

IRAD—Regional History Center
Swen Parson Hall
Northern Illinois University
DeKalb, IL 60115
(815) 753-1779

IRAD—Brookens Library
University of Illinois at Springfield
Springfield, IL 62794
(217) 786-6520

IRAD—c/o Special Collections
Morris Library-6632
Southern Illinois University
Carbondale, IL 62901
(618) 453-3040

IRAD—Ronald Williams Library
Northeastern Illinois University
5500 N. St. Louis Avenue
Chicago, IL 60625-4699
(773) 794-6279

IRAD—University Library
Western Illinois University
1 University Circle
Macomb, IL 61455
(309) 298-2716

<http://www.sos.state.il.us>

Printed by authority of the State of Illinois
October 1997 – 10M – GA-261

3 0112 122579557



UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS-URBANA